

**Village of Indian Head Park  
201 Acacia Drive  
Indian Head Park, IL 60525**

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**MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*“Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.06 (3) minutes of public meetings shall include, but need not be limited to: a general description of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided, and a record of votes taken.”*

**Thursday, January 8, 2009  
7:30 P.M.**

**★ CALL TO ORDER - MAYOR RICHARD ANDREWS**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Village of Indian Head Park Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, January 8, 2009, at the Municipal Facility, 201 Acacia Drive, and was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Richard Andrews. Village Clerk Joseph Consolo called the roll as follows:

**★ ROLL CALL: JOSEPH CONSOLO, VILLAGE CLERK**

**PRESENT (AND CONSTITUTING A QUORUM):**

Mayor Richard Andrews  
Trustee Debbie Anselmo  
Trustee Brian T. Bailey  
Trustee Anne Bermier  
Trustee Carol Coleman  
Trustee Norman L. Schnauffer  
Trustee Matthew P. Walsh II

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Frank Alonzo, Chief of Police/Administration  
Steve Busa, Treasurer  
Joseph V. Consolo, Village Clerk  
Richard Ramello, Counsel, Storino, Ramello & Durkin  
Edward Santen, Water/Public Works Superintendent

**★ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor Richard Andrews and the Board of Trustees led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: *“I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all”*.

◆ **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Andrews reported that it is the first meeting of the new year with new hopes and new challenges that the Board will address. On behalf of the Board, Mayor Andrews extended condolences to Police Officer John Elza on the loss of his mother recently. Mayor Andrews noted that the Public Works Department staff is completing the painting in the lobby areas of the Municipal Facility, the work will be completed this week and the staff did a nice job.

◆ **PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF RED SPEED INTERNATIONAL REGARDING TRAFFIC LIGHT ENFORCEMENT- GREG ZITO AND MICHAEL LEBERT**

Mayor Andrews introduced Greg Zito and Michael LeBert from Red Speed of Illinois who will make a presentation to the Village Board regarding a program with regard to traffic light enforcement.

Greg Zito and Michael LeBert from Red Speed of Illinois provided a Powerpoint presentation to the Village Board outlining the details of the Red Speed traffic light enforcement program. Michael LeBert stated that he is a thirty (30) year veteran of a local Chicago suburban police department, he retired as a deputy chief, the last seven years on the job was spent as an operations deputy chief and traffic safety was part of the job. Mr. LeBert also introduced Greg Zito who is the sales and marketing director for Red Speed Illinois. He noted that Greg was a Village Manager for many years, he was a former State Representative and former State Senator. Mr. Zito stated that a concept was developed by Red Speed to bring a program to small to medium size municipalities in Illinois to enhance safety in those communities.

Mr. Zito stated that the Red Speed Program has been used by law enforcement to bring intersection safety to Illinois communities for a long time. He noted the following: (1) engineering as it relates to roads is well organized and most roads are finished or maintenance is scheduled to be completed; (2) the more education and marketing that is provided with the program, is better supported by communities; (3) it is proven history that the stricter the enforcement the better the program works. Mr. Zito stated that everyone has heard of the program implemented "click it or ticket" which is a motorist awareness program that has been successful through marketing and educating the public. He noted that there was a hurdle initially with law enforcement with the "click it or ticket" program because it took some time to convince drivers that it was safer and in their best interest to wear seatbelts. Mr. Zito stated that for the first time in State history, police departments across the state on the same date and time issued tickets for seatbelt violations. He noted that just a few short years ago only 50% of Illinois drivers were wearing seatbelts and now 91% of drivers wear seatbelts.

Mr. Zito pointed out that between 800 and 1,000 Americans die every year due to red light related crashes, 176,000 individuals are injured in red light crashes and it cost our Nation about 14 billion dollars. Mr. Zito stated that Red Speed of Illinois has about fifty (50) clients in the Chicago area that have had cameras in place for eighteen months. He noted that clients of Red Speed are reporting that red light crashes are being reduced by about 25% to 40%. Mr. Zito stated that intersections protected by the Red Light cameras reduce right angle crashes up to 50%. He noted that the program is designed to change driver behavior to improve safety.

Mr. Zito stated that Red Speed is the only company in Illinois doing this type of business and the program was designed to meet Illinois law. He further noted: (1) even with cameras mounted on poles with signs indicating red light enforcement cameras are in place, some people still run the red light; (2) the plug and play turn-key installation basically means that there are several cameras up at the top of a pole and each is designed to cover a specific lane. If one camera goes down, engineers from Red Speed will install a new camera; (3) the first step of the program is capturing the violation; (4) each violation is reviewed individually by trained staff prior to the violation being made available to the police departments; (5) in-ground wireless sensor devices are installed in the pavement to track vehicles, the installation of sensors takes a minimal amount of time to install and snow plows go right over the devices with no problems. Mr. Zito noted that Red Speed Illinois is the first company in Illinois to be issued I.D.O.T. permits and about 75 permits have been issued to Red Speed by I.D.O.T. He noted that all Red Speed work is performed locally and there is 24 hour access to support staff if there is a problem with the equipment.

Mr. Zito reviewed a variety of violations that were captured by the Red Light cameras. He noted that after a violation is captured, the film is downloaded to the Red Speed office and staff will review violations. Mr. Zito stated that a close up of the plate is taken and if in fact the video clip shows a violation, the violation and film will be sent to the police department for an officer's review to determine if a ticket should be issued. He noted that there are some instances when vehicles are going through red lights when cameras may capture those vehicles as a violation. For example, vehicles in funeral processions and officer directed intersections. These film clips will be deleted and not sent to the police department for review.

Mr. Zito stated that Red Speed of Illinois prints and mails police approved violations within 24 hours of receiving confirmation, an 800 number is imprinted on the tickets that are issued, calls are handled by staff at Red Speed and a website address is provided if someone wishes to review the violation tape as the violation occurred. He noted that Red Speed also provides an adjudication hearing process if someone wishes to challenge the violation and Red Speed staff will send the notice of hearings. Mr. Zito pointed out that the Red Speed of Illinois comprehensive adjudication support includes:

(1) patented adjudication software; (2) courtroom computer hardware including a laptop with dual video output, a barcode scanner for instant evidence package retrieval; (3) upcoming in-person hearing reports to assist the municipality in planning case workloads; (4) printing and mailing of findings, decisions and order notices.

Mr. Zito stated studies on the intersections will need to be done to determine the best location for cameras and traffic counters will be installed on each approach intersection for 12 hours counting violations and videotaping. He noted that when the report comes back to the office, Red Speed staff will review the films. Mr. Zito stated that prior to installation of cameras, Red Speed staff will meet with the police department to review the software which is user friendly. Mr. Zito stated that the Red Speed marketing team came up with the slogan "Use your Head Stop on Red". He noted that "Click it or Ticket" was very effective and hopes the Red Speed program will be as well. Mr. Zito stated that marketing materials will be provided by Red Speed to post on the Village's Website, in the Village newsletter or to distribute to the public.

Mr. Zito stated that Red Speed implementation fees are all inclusive, there are no hidden fees and one contract needs to be signed that covers everything that was discussed this evening. He noted that if for some reason the violations do not bring in enough revenue to support the cost of the program, the Village will not owe Red Speed any money. Mr. Zito stated that the contract has a sixty day termination clause whereby if Red Speed does not live up to its end of the contract the Village can withdraw from the agreement in writing with no cost or penalty to the Village. He noted the only cost to the Village would be if Red Speed is doing everything according to the contract but the Village just had a change of heart to not continue with the program.

Mr. Zito stated that once the Village decides whether to proceed with the Red Speed program a contract will be sent to the Village for counsel's review.

Mayor Andrews asked if snow, ice conditions or gravel trucks would interfere with the sensors installed in the roadway and the recording of the vehicle violations. Mr. Zito stated that the sensors are wireless and it is possible if someone dropped a truckload of materials over the sensors that would block the sensors. He noted that a monitoring signal would be sent to the Red Speed office if there is a problem and someone from Red Speed would be sent out in the field to determine the cause of the problem. Mayor Andrews stated that occasionally there are power outages in the Village and sometimes the street lights are affected. He asked if the timing of the lights are off what happens to the Red Speed System. Mr. Zito stated that if a light is not operational, the Red Speed system has a battery back-up system which stores all data until the system is back on line and the system resets once the light is back on line.

Mayor Andrews asked if right turns on red are permitted at intersections such as Joliet Road which is a two lane roadway and Wolf Road which is a single lane road.

Mike LeBert stated that the law in Illinois for a right turn on red is defined as a vehicle must come to a complete stop, look for motor vehicle traffic passing then check adjacent roadways to look for pedestrians. He noted that a right turn on red is permitted if these rules are followed.

Mike LeBert stated that a typical violation for a right turn on red is when a vehicle enters the intersection and makes the right turn on red without checking for other vehicles or pedestrians that might be crossing the lanes. The films would be reviewed to determine if a violation occurred.

Mayor Andrews asked on average how soon would the results concerning the safety of the intersection be available after the implementation of the Red Speed system. Mr. Zito stated that Red Speed customers have reported a reduction in accidents of 25% to 40% and the ticket number tends to go up and down. He noted that at the end of the year the same number of tickets may be issued but throughout the year the number of accidents is reduced. Mayor Andrews asked about the cost neutrality part of the program. Mr. Zito stated that cost neutrality means that Red Speed will install the system and an agreement will be made for monthly services fees and monthly rental fee on the cameras. He pointed out that the maintenance fee is \$1,499.00 per month and the service fee is \$5.99 per service fee and there may be up to six service fees on each video clip. Mr. Zito stated that on a \$100 ticket, approximately \$34.90 would go to Red Speed. He noted that if the monthly revenue to the Village from the citations does not pay for the services, the Village would not owe Red Speed any money. Mr. Zito stated that at no point through the entire length of the contract would the Village have to pay for the Red Speed Program if revenue is not generated through the violations.

Mayor Andrews asked about the cancellation clause of the contract. Greg Zito stated that if Red Speed lives up to its end of the agreement and the Village changes its mind and asks Red Speed to remove the cameras and leave, Red Speed would require the Village to pay for construction costs which is typically \$30,000 per camera. Mr. Zito stated that if cameras are installed at an intersection and another intersection is nearby, driver behavior will also be impacted at the location where there is no camera in place. Mayor Andrews asked about the provisions for installing a camera at an intersection where there is a boundary between two communities. Mr. Zito stated that Western Springs is a client of Red Speed and if Indian Head Park wants to install a camera on Plainfield and Wolf it would only be on the Indian Head Park approach. Mr. Zito stated that if the road is an I.D.O.T. intersection, I.D.O.T. requires that the signals lights be upgraded to LED. He noted that the electrical contractor charges about \$23,000 to upgrade the lights to LED and the municipality pays the fee. He noted that Red Speed as a partner with the municipality has agreed to pay half the cost to upgrade the light with the other half being paid by the municipality and I.D.O.T. will give the camera nine months of operation before the payment is due for the light upgrades.

Greg Zito stated that Red Speed has been successful in finding grant money to help with the costs for light upgrades to LED. He noted that Red Speed would contribute \$12,500, the Village would contribute about \$10,000 out of the revenue collected and about \$2,000 from grants might be available to upgrade the signals lights to LED. He noted that if Western Springs and Indian Head Park decided to implement a system at the same intersection hopefully a compromise could be reached to share the cost for the light upgrades.

Trustee Coleman asked if there are different requirements to install the Red Speed system at an intersection that is a county roadway. Greg Zito stated that Cook county does not require that the lights be upgraded to LED for the Red Speed implementation. He noted that Red Speed will review all data with the police department to determine if there are violations to issue citations.

Trustee Walsh asked how many citations on average over one year would be issued for red light violations. Mr. Zito stated that some camera locations issue 300 tickets a month and some locations issue 2,000 tickets per month. Trustee Walsh asked if there is a standard fee for the red light violations. Mr. Zito stated that Illinois law allows a fine up to \$100 and all Red Speed clients have adopted an ordinance that sets a category for a \$100 fine with a \$100 late fee. Mr. Zito stated that the maintenance fee is \$1,499.00 per month as well as a service fee of \$5.99 x 6 that Red Speed would receive (or approx. 36.00) for that \$100 ticket.

Trustee Bailey asked if there is a minimum contract term to cover all of the up front costs by Red Speed. Greg Zito stated that a six-year contract is the standard agreement. Trustee Bailey asked if there are any Red Speed clients to date that have been sued by neighbors as a result of the camera enforcement. Mike LeBert stated that yesterday was a monumental step forward for Illinois as well as many other states. He noted that the City of Chicago was sued which turned into a class action suit on the legality and constitutionality of allowing photo enforcement to be enforced rather than have a live officer present issuing a violation. Mr. Lebert stated that the court ruling was that photo enforcement was deemed constitutional for 21<sup>st</sup> century technology in taking the place of an officer. He noted that there were two other lawsuits filed in Mississippi on the same grounds as a result of the Chicago lawsuit and those two lawsuits have been dropped in light of the decision in the Chicago case. Mayor Andrews asked what level of court the Chicago case was considered. Mr. LeBert stated that the Supreme Court refused to hear the case. He further noted that the City of Chicago is not a client of Red Speed and the City decided to purchase their own cameras for enforcement.

Trustee Walsh asked if Red Speed would have an indemnification provision in the contract in case there is litigation that involves the Village. Mr. LeBert stated that there is an indemnification clause in the contract and the language is standard terms that could be reviewed by counsel. Mr. LeBert stated that he is a former state legislator and was involved in the passage of HB4835 in 2006 that was passed in Illinois.

He noted that all of the costs associated with the program are not at the expense of the taxpayer but violator generated. Mr. LeBert stated that if Red Speed does not live up to its end of the contract, the cameras will be removed and Red Speed will be gone. He noted that he has sat in the same seats as the Trustees and the main responsibility of the Board is to protect the residents of the community and protect the dollars.

Greg Zito extended an invitation to the Board to visit the Red Speed facility operations in Lombard.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of an Ordinance Approving Amendments to the Agreement and By-Laws for the West Central Cable Agency (*Ordinance #09-1*)

Trustee Coleman moved, seconded by Trustee Walsh, to approve the consent agenda as presented. (6/0/0). Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

*Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Coleman, Schnaufer, Walsh*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: None*

## **APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting - December 4, 2008

After review of Board meeting minutes, Trustee Bailey moved, seconded by Trustee Schnaufer, to approve the December 4, 2008 regular Board meeting minutes, as presented. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

## **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT - TREASURER BUSA**

*Financial Report for the month ending November 30, 2008*

Treasurer Busa presented the financial report for the month ending November 30, 2008. For the month of November, he noted: (1) total revenues were \$290,921.81; (2) expenditures were \$426,898.96 and; (3) total fund balances in all accounts at the end of November were \$514,747.59.

Treasurer Busa noted that there were two bond payments during the month of November that were paid and significant payments for road salt purchase. Trustee Schnaufer moved, seconded by Trustee Bermier, to approve the financial report for the month ending November 30, 2008, as presented by Treasurer Busa. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (6/0/0).

*Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Coleman, Schnaufer, Walsh*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: None*

## **QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE - INDIAN HEAD PARK RESIDENTS**

Mayor Andrews reported that there was an announcement in one of the local newspapers that Helen Harper of Western Springs passed away on Christmas Eve. He noted that Helen served on the Planning and Zoning Commission for Indian Head Park as well as the Board of Trustees. Mayor Andrews and the Board extended condolences to the Harper family.

Lenore Halac, of Blackhawk Trail, stated that she recently acquired a computer and visited the Village's Website and found that there is material posted on the site from many years ago and she asked why updated information is not posted on the Website. Mayor Andrews stated that he was not aware of outdated information but there are past approved meeting minutes as well as past Smoke Signals issues for public information purposes. He noted that Dave Brink, updates the Website for the Village if there are changes that need to be made.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Walsh moved, seconded by Trustee Anselmo, to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 8:10 p.m. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Leach, Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary